

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub-12 1. An information processing apparatus which is connected to a plurality of printers through a network, designates a specific printer from said plurality of printers, and transmits print data to said designated printer, comprising:


intermediate data generating means for receiving a drawing function which is formed by an OS on the basis of a draw command from an application and generating intermediate data on the basis of said drawing function;

print condition obtaining means for obtaining print conditions to print a print job of said intermediate data;

search condition transmitting means for transmitting said print conditions as search conditions of said printer to a search server;

selecting means for selecting a printer to which said intermediate data should be outputted on the basis of device designation information which is obtained from said search server in accordance with said search conditions; and

intermediate data output means for outputting said intermediate data to a graphic engine of the OS so as to transfer the drawing function to a printer driver corresponding to said selected printer.

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2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate data output means converts said intermediate data into a draw command which can be interpreted by said graphic engine of the OS and
5 outputs said converted draw command to said graphic engine.

3. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said intermediate data output means designates the
10 printer driver to which the drawing function should be outputted when the draw command is outputted to said graphic engine.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
15 said print condition obtaining means obtains said print conditions from said intermediate data and a print setting of said print job.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
20 said print conditions include function information of devices connected to said network.

6. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus which is connected to
25 a plurality of printers through a network, designates a specific printer from said plurality of printers, and transmits print data to said designated printer,

comprising:

an intermediate data generating step of receiving a drawing function which is formed by an OS on the basis of a draw command from an application and
5 generating intermediate data on the basis of said drawing function;

a print condition obtaining step of obtaining print conditions to print a print job of said intermediate data;

10 a search condition transmitting step of transmitting said print conditions as search conditions of said printer to a search server;

a selecting step of selecting a printer to which said intermediate data should be outputted on the basis
15 of device designation information which is obtained from said search server in accordance with said search conditions; and

an intermediate data output step of outputting said intermediate data to a graphic engine of the OS so
20 as to transfer the drawing function to a printer driver corresponding to said selected printer.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein in said intermediate data output step, said intermediate data
25 is converted into a draw command which can be interpreted by said graphic engine of the OS and said converted draw command is outputted to said graphic

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engine.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein in said intermediate data output step, the printer driver to which the drawing function should be outputted is designated when the draw command is outputted to said graphic engine.

9. A method according to claim 6, wherein in said print condition obtaining step, said print conditions are obtained from said intermediate data and a print setting of said print job.

10. A method according to claim 6, wherein said print conditions include function information of devices connected to said network.

11. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for an information processing method for an information processing apparatus which is connected to a plurality of printers through a network, designates a specific printer from said plurality of printers, and transmits print data to said designated printer, wherein said program comprises:

an intermediate data generating step of receiving a drawing function which is formed by an OS on the basis of a draw command from an application and

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generating intermediate data on the basis of said drawing function;

5 a print condition obtaining step of obtaining print conditions to print a print job of said intermediate data;


a search condition transmitting step of transmitting said print conditions as search conditions of said printer to a search server;

10 a selecting step of selecting a printer to which said intermediate data should be outputted on the basis of device designation information which is obtained from said search server in accordance with said search conditions; and

15 an intermediate data output step of outputting said intermediate data to a graphic engine of the OS so as to transfer the drawing function to a printer driver corresponding to said selected printer.

20 12. A medium according to claim 11, wherein in said intermediate data output step, said intermediate data is converted into a draw command which can be interpreted by said graphic engine of the OS and said converted draw command is outputted to said graphic engine.

25 13. A medium according to claim 12, wherein in said intermediate data output step, the printer driver

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5 14. A medium according to claim 11, wherein in said print condition obtaining step, said print conditions are obtained from said intermediate data and a print setting of said print job.

10 15. A medium according to claim 11, wherein said print conditions include function information of devices connected to said network.

15 16. An information processing program for an information processing method for an information processing apparatus which is connected to a plurality of printers through a network, designates a specific printer from said plurality of printers, and transmits print data to said designated printer, wherein said
20 program comprises:

 an intermediate data generating step of receiving a drawing function which is formed by an OS on the basis of a draw command from an application and generating intermediate data on the basis of said
25 drawing function;

 a print condition obtaining step of obtaining print conditions to print a print job of said

intermediate data;

a search condition transmitting step of transmitting said print conditions as search conditions of said printer to a search server;

5 a selecting step of selecting a printer to which said intermediate data should be outputted on the basis of device designation information which is obtained from said search server in accordance with said search conditions; and

10 an intermediate data output step of outputting said intermediate data to a graphic engine of the OS so as to transfer the drawing function to a printer driver corresponding to said selected printer.

15 17. A program according to claim 16, wherein in said intermediate data output step, said intermediate data is converted into a draw command which can be interpreted by said graphic engine of the OS and said converted draw command is outputted to said graphic
20 engine.

18. A program according to claim 17, wherein in said intermediate data output step, the printer driver to which the drawing function should be outputted is
25 designated when the draw command is outputted to said graphic engine.

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19. A program according to claim 16, wherein in said print condition obtaining step, said print conditions are obtained from said intermediate data and a print setting of said print job.

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20. A program according to claim 16, wherein said print conditions include function information of devices connected to said network.